

I strongly urge the FCC to consider the negative consequences of mandated compliance with a digital television copy protection 'broadcast flag'.

This technology will benefit a select few whilst hurting the populace at large and severely limiting certain future technologies. Current TV signals can be recorded by all- whether analog or digital in origin. Hollywood tried to prevent the VCR from being birthed in the 70's -- recordability of DTV will present no greater risk than the VCR did at that time.

Many citizens, including myself, develop and utilize emerging technologies such as the Linux operating system and custom-built computer systems. I presently enjoy playing legitimately purchased CD's on my computer and in my car. Copy protection technology is already threatening my ability to utilize my licensed content, and could if left unchecked prevent it's use on my systems altogether. It will not, however, stop illegal copying.

Should we tie and bind all citizens' hands so as to prevent any from committing a crime?